



COMMITTEE ON DENTAL AUXILIARIES
THE DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
1428 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 58, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
TELEPHONE (916) 263-2595 FAX (916) 263-2709
www.comda.ca.gov



Committee on Dental Auxiliaries
Public Meeting Minutes
Culver City, California
February 7, 2007

A public meeting of The Committee on Dental Auxiliaries (COMDA) was held February 7, 2007 at the Radisson Hotel Los Angeles Westside in Culver City. Due notice had been sent to all known interested parties.

1. Call to order/Member roll call

Chairperson Shanda Wallace called the meeting to order at 1:12 PM and welcomed everyone. She directed guests to voluntary guest book registration and reminded those who address the Committee to sign in at the testimony table. Committee Secretary Rochelle Bache called the roll and the group noted that member Judith Forsythe was absent due to illness. A quorum was established with the following members present:

Rochelle Bache, RDAEF
William Baker
Teresita Churchill, RDA
Linda Gipson, RDH
Shanda Wallace, RDH

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the November 13, 2006 public meeting were reviewed and corrected as follows:

- Ms. Bache's professional designation was changed from "RDA" to "RDAEF" to reflect her correct license status.
- On page 4, paragraph 3, the comments made by Cathy Mudge, representing the California Dental Association (CDA) were corrected to indicated the CDA's willingness to support legislation extending the implementation of SB1546 and SB1541 once the full package of proposed regulations has been "noticed to the Office of Administrative Law."

Mr. Baker moved and Ms. Gipson seconded approval of the corrected November 13, 2006 open session minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Chairperson's Report

Ms. Wallace recognized former COMDA member Sonia Molina, DMD, who was in the audience, and expressed sincere appreciation for her service. Dr. Molina could not attend the November meeting, which was her final meeting on the Committee.

Ms. Wallace reported that she had attended and chaired the RDH examination subcommittee meeting held in San Francisco on January 20, 2007. She also told of attending the January 31, 2007 Oral Health Access Council (OHAC) meeting where she reported on COMDA issues.

Sharie Mikolajczyk, the new chief examiner for the Dental Hygiene Clinical Examination, and Rick Wallinder, the new Dental Board of California (DBC) Executive Officer, were introduced. Ms. Wallace commented on positive efforts to improve communication between COMDA and the DBC and expressed her support for plans for a "Blue Sky" meeting with both groups, emphasizing her desire to facilitate this improved communication.

4. Report of the Executive Officer

Ms. Ware reviewed her written report. She also reported that she would be working on a revision of the form needed for resubmission of the RDHAP regulations that were rejected and would work with DBC staff to ensure a timely resubmission. Ms. Ware said she is working with Mr. Wallinder to identify areas where COMDA and the DBC may wish to re-evaluate their interaction and division of responsibility. She reported on working with departmental Budget Office staff to assess the fund condition and told of plans to bring a comprehensive report and proposal to the April meeting. An updated confidential Committee member telephone list was distributed to members.

5. RDA Program

RDA licensing and examination statistics were reviewed. Lori Hubble, Examination Coordinator, presented a 2006 year-end report on RDA Practical Examinations and reported that annualized RDA examination fee income appears to be sufficient to cover both direct and indirect examination administration costs. Staff clarified that occupational analysis costs are associated with examination development and are, therefore, included among the indirect costs.

Ms. Hubble reported that the Office of Examination Resources (OER) would help launch the occupational analysis process for the new specialties and new RDA once the regulations are in place. Discussion ensued. Staff clarified that the OER is one of the nation's leaders in occupational test development, their expertise is available, and it is a matter of having all the underlying pieces in place to facilitate the process.

It was moved by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Bache, and carried unanimously to recommend approval of the following RDA examiners:

- Tamera Anderson, RDA – Riverside
- Kim Dinsmore, RDA – Rocklin
- Marcella Moya, RDA – Manteca
- Jennifer Nardini, RDA – Simi Valley
- Michelle Perry, RDA – Los Angeles

Lorie Kiley, RDA Program Coordinator, distributed an updated report on applications for RDA program and course approvals. She reported that several applications have been received from licensees interested in serving as educational consultants in the program and course approval process and said they were undergoing review. Those selected to continue in the process will be invited to a March training session. Ms. Wallace thanked Ms. Kiley for so effectively putting the program and course approval process in order.

Ms. Kiley presented results of RDA program and course application reviews.

RDA Programs

Recommendation for provisional approval of the following four programs was moved by Ms. Bache, seconded by Ms. Gipson and carried unanimously:

- Heald College, Concord
- Heald College, Hayward
- Maric College, Salida
- Maric College, Sacramento

Radiation Safety Course

Recommendation for provisional approval of the following radiation safety course was moved by Ms. Bache, seconded by Ms. Gipson and carried unanimously:

- Dental Assisting Institute, Rocklin

Ultrasonic Scaling Course

Recommendation for provisional approval of the following ultrasonic scaling course was moved by Ms. Bache, seconded by Ms. Gipson and carried unanimously:

- San Bernardino County ROP, Hesperia

Pit and Fissure Sealant Course

Questions arose regarding the need to have the name of the supervising dentist before approving a new pit and fissure sealant course. Discussion was temporarily tabled while the Committee recessed for a break at 2:20 p.m. The committee reconvened at 2:34 p.m. and continued discussion. Counsel clarified that pit and fissure sealant course regulations do not require identification of a supervising dentist in order to qualify for course approval. The Committee discussed use of provisional approval versus full approval. Counsel clarified that provisional approval is only provided in the regulations for RDA programs and staff clarified that none of the courses recommended for provisional approval had any remaining deficiency.

Mr. Baker moved and Ms. Gipson seconded to delete the “provisional” designation from course approval recommendations previously approved at the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baker expressed continuing concern about approving a course when the supervising dentist had not been identified and moved to split consideration of pit and fissure courses. The motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. Gipson moved and Ms. Churchill seconded approval of the following three pit and fissure sealant courses:

- City College of San Francisco
- Dental Pros, Temecula
- North Orange County ROP, Fullerton

Chairperson Wallace broke a tie vote and the motion carried three for and two against.

6. RDH Program

RDH licensing and examination statistics were reviewed. Lori Hubble, Examination and RDH Program Coordinator, presented a 2006 year-end report on RDH examinations, noting that dollar cost averaging over the full year slightly reduced the potential fee increase needed to cover at minimum the direct costs of administration of the hygiene clinical examination. Ms. Mudge, representing the CDA, expressed a desire to have all individuals who take the hygiene examination, including dental students authorized under §1766(g), pay the same examination fee that covers the actual cost of administering the examination.

It was moved by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Bache, and carried unanimously to recommend approval of the following RDH examiner:

- Karen Asti, RDH – Fortuna

Ms. Hubble reported on efforts to institute computerized administration of a combined hygiene law and ethics examination. She noted that the Department’s contract with a testing vendor would soon expire and efforts were ongoing to identify the new vendor. Bids had been opened, and the winning bid identified, but an appeal was filed, thus delaying confirmation of the new vendor. Once the new vendor has been confirmed she will work with the OER to initiate implementation of computerized administration of this examination.

7. Legislation and Regulations

Proposed regulations to implement SB 1546 re dental assisting scopes of practice, new programs and courses and SB 1 541 re the work experience pathway for RDA specialty licensure

Ms. Ware reviewed her memos and recommendations regarding the proposed regulations. She referred to three exhibits:

- A comprehensive proposal presented by the Alliance of the California Dental Assistants Association (CDAA), California Association of Dental Assistant teachers (CADAT), and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Association (RDAEFA).
- A proposed revision for the regulations pertaining to approval of Registered Orthodontic Assistant programs provided by Earl Johnson, DDS, representing the California Association of Orthodontists.
- Revised versions of the previously drafted and approved specialty program regulations.

She presented the following table with an assessment of the regulations required to accomplish this implementation:

Regulations Needed for Implementation of SB 1546 and SB 1541

New Ed. Programs	Courses to Upgrade Current RDA	DA	Secondary, Regional, ROP type programs
ROA	Orthodontic Bracket Placement & Removal	Infection Control	Core Course
RSA	IV		
RRA	Monitoring During Sedation		
EF	EF		

Ms. Ware reported that her revisions of the previously approved specialty and extended function regulations were non-substantive and included some grammatical corrections and more consistent language in the general portions as well as incorporation of some suggestions that had been received in written comments. Discussion ensued and Ms. Mudge, representing the CDA, requested that the record show that all the proposed regulations are the result of SB1546 and that SB1541 simply created a work experience pathway. Dr. Johnson of the CAO expressed concerns that orthodontists were not consulted in drafting the proposed Registered Orthodontic Assistant (ROA) regulations. Clarification was provided that two orthodontists were involved in the process and served on the CDA committee that worked with the Alliance to develop the proposed language. Dr. Johnson requested additional input. Joan Greenfield of the Alliance distributed an addendum to their proposed ROA language found under tab 7a(1) in the agenda book,

changing their recommendation for a clinical examination to a “simulated” clinical examination using a full model typodont in a patient-like setting, rather than a live patient.

Ms. Wallace then invited comments on the proposed regulations and the Committee agreed to begin with an examination of the proposed ROA regulations. The regulations were reviewed page by page and testimony was received from Dr. Johnson, Ms. Mudge, and Alliance representatives Barbara Blade, Joan Greenfield, JoAnne Galliano, and Lori Gagliardi of the California Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA).

The Committee recessed for a break and reconvened at 5:55 p.m. with an announcement that the meeting room would be available only until 7:00 p.m.

Discussion of the proposed regulations was suspended so the Committee could turn to proposed language for clean-up legislation under tab 7b in the agenda book. Mr. Baker moved and Ms. Bache seconded to proceed with pursuing the clean-up legislation. Discussion ensued, public comments were received, and the Alliance distributed other recommendations for proposed regulations noting that they contained suggestions that could require legislation.

The question was called and the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Dental Board that it locate an author and sponsor the clean-up legislation using the language prepared by staff and included in the agenda packet.

The Committee then resumed discussion of the proposed ROA regulations. At the conclusion of the discussion, Ms. Wallace thanked those who provided comment and directed staff to prepare a revision based upon the comments and discussion.

The Committee turned to discussion of proposed Registered Surgery Assistant (RSA) regulations. It was the consensus that any general changes made in the ROA regulations could be carried over into the general areas of the other regulations in an effort to maintain consistency. Discussion ensued. As the hour approached, Ms. Wallace ended discussion and requested that all other comments on the regulatory proposals be submitted to the Committee office in writing no later than March 1. Staff was directed to work with counsel to review those comments and prepare a final recommended regulatory package for implementation of SB1546 and SB1541 to be considered at the April meeting.

8. Future agenda items and issues of interest

April meeting

- Regulations
- Fund condition projections and resulting fee recommendations
- Strategic planning
- Annual review of the Executive Officer

The date and location of the April meeting were discussed. Ms. Wallace suggested meeting the week before the Dental Board meetings in order to allow sufficient time for

final adjustments to the regulatory package that will be referred to the Dental Board at their meeting. The meeting was set for Wednesday, April 18 at 10:30 a.m. in Sacramento.

9. Additional public comments

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Prepared by Elizabeth Ware

Submitted to the Committee for approval at its April 18, 2007 meeting.

APPROVED:

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Shanda Wallace, RDH
Chairperson, Committee on Dental Auxiliaries